## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 ACDA-12 IO-13 TRSE-00 (ISO) W

-----033633 231541Z /53

R 220814Z APR 78

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6052

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0852

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR, SA, IZ

SUBJECT: SAUDI DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS BAGHDAD

- 1. SAUDI DEFENSE MINISTER PRINCE SULTAN ARRIVED IN BAGHDAD APRIL 17 AND DEPARTED APRIL 19. HIS OFFICIAL HOST WAS IRAQI DEFENSE MINISTER ADNAN KHAIRALLAH, BUT BOTH PRESIDENT BAKR AND SADDAM HUSSEIN RECEIVED SULTAN DURING VISIT. SAUDI FOREIGN UNDERSECRETARY ABDUL RAHMAN AL-MANSOURI ACCOMPANIED SULTAN.
- 2. MEDIA COVERAGE WAS UNREMARKABLE, AND SULTAN DESCRIBED HIS HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS IN GENERAL TERMS AS "CONSTRUCTIVE, PURPOSEFUL, AND PERVADED BY AN ATMOSPHERE OF SINCERE BROTHERHOOD."

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- 3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ONE AGREEMENT WHICH MAY HAVE COME OUT OF THE MEETINGS WAS AN IRAQI READINESS TO TRAIN SAUDI OFFICERS AT THE IRAQI STAFF COLLEGE.
- 4. COMMENT: IT IS A FAIR PRESUMPTION THAT GULF SECURITY ISSUES AROSE DURING COURSE OF SULTAN'S MEETINGS. IF SO, IT IS LIKELY THAT IRAQIS REITERATED

THEIR OPPOSITION TO ANY KIND OF REGIONAL SECURITY PACT AND STRESSED THEIR DESIRE FOR CLOSER BILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF GULF. ARAB DIPLOMATS ALSO SPECULATE THAT SULTAN MAY HAVE ASKED HARD QUESTIONS ABOUT IRAQI ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET ROLE IN PDRY AND THE HORN. MACK

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: SAUDI DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS BAGHDAD

TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, SA, IZ, (AL SA\'UD, SULTAN IBN ABD AL-AZIZ)

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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